

**BIDEN'S CLIMATE-RELATED  
EXECUTIVE ORDERS &  
ACTIONS TO DATE**

March 2021

# SUMMARY

- Appointment of **John Kerry** and **Gina McCarthy** to new, key climate positions
- An Instrument of Acceptance deposited with the **UN Secretary-General** indicating the **US's** desire to **rejoin the Paris Agreement** on 1/20/21
- **EO 14008** Executive Order on Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad
- **EO 13990** Executive Order on Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Science to Tackle the Climate Crisis
- **EO 14013** Rebuilding and Enhancing Programs to Resettle Refugees and Planning for the Impact of Climate Change on Migration
- **EO 14007** Executive Order on Establishing President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology
- Memorandum on Restoring Trust in Government Through Scientific Integrity and Evidence-Based Policymaking

**SPECIAL PRESIDENTIAL ENVOY FOR CLIMATE, JOHN KERRY  
&  
WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF DOMESTIC CLIMATE POLICY, GINA MCCARTHY**

- In November 2020, President-elect Biden appointed [John Kerry](#) as his special presidential envoy for climate, underscoring his commitment to tackling the global crisis. Kerry will hold a Cabinet-level position in Biden's administration and will sit on the National Security Council.
- In December 2020, President-elect Biden appointed [Gina McCarthy](#) as head of the new White House Office of Domestic Climate Policy (officially created in EO 14008).

# REJOINING THE PARIS AGREEMENT

## ACCEPTANCE ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

I, Joseph R. Biden Jr., President of the United States of America, having seen and considered the Paris Agreement, done at Paris on December 12, 2015, do hereby accept the said Agreement and every article and clause thereof on behalf of the United States of America.

Done at Washington this 20th day of January, 2021.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR.

**EO 14008 EXECUTIVE ORDER ON TACKLING THE CLIMATE  
CRISIS AT HOME AND ABROAD**

*CEMENTS THE CLIMATE CRISIS AT THE CENTER OF US FOREIGN POLICY AND NATIONAL SECURITY. MOST NOTABLY, IT DIRECTS THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO PAUSE ON ENTERING INTO NEW OIL AND NATURAL GAS LEASES ON PUBLIC LANDS OR OFFSHORE WATERS.*

- **Reaffirms the US decision to rejoin the Paris Agreement.**
- **Establishes the National Climate Task Force, assembling leaders from across 21 federal agencies and departments.**
- **Commits to environmental justice and new, clean infrastructure projects.**
- **Kicks off development of emissions reduction target (net zero emissions).**
- **Establishes the special presidential envoy for climate on the National Security Council.**
- **Creates the new White House Office of Domestic Climate Policy.**
- **Instructs Director of National Intelligence to prepare a national intelligence estimate on the security implications of the climate crisis and directs all agencies to develop strategies for integrating climate considerations into their international work.**

**EO 13990 EXECUTIVE ORDER ON PROTECTING PUBLIC  
HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT AND RESTORING SCIENCE  
TO TACKLE THE CLIMATE CRISIS**

Cancels the Keystone XL Pipeline and directs agencies to review (and reverse?) hundreds of actions on the environment undertaken over the last 4 years (includes fuel efficiency standards & other energy efficiency standards).

**EO 14013 REBUILDING AND ENHANCING PROGRAMS TO  
RESETTLE REFUGEES AND PLANNING FOR THE IMPACT OF  
CLIMATE CHANGE ON MIGRATION**

Directs the Administration to analyze how to identify, protect and resettle people “directly or indirectly” displaced by climate impacts. It also instructs the government to consider how U.S. foreign aid can help prepare climate-vulnerable areas.

## **EO 14007 EXECUTIVE ORDER ON ESTABLISHING PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL OF ADVISORS ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

Reestablishes the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST). Moving forward, the Council will advise Biden on policy that affects science, technology and innovation.

# MEMORANDUM ON RESTORING TRUST IN GOVERNMENT THROUGH SCIENTIFIC INTEGRITY AND EVIDENCE-BASED POLICYMAKING

- Charges the director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy with responsibility for ensuring scientific integrity across federal agencies. Agencies that oversee, direct or fund research are tasked with designating senior agency employees as chief science officers to ensure agency research programs are scientifically and technologically well founded.
- A subsequent announcement on February 26, 2021 increased the “social cost of carbon” used by federal policy makers back to pre-2017 levels temporarily while an updated metric is under development.

**Summary of EO 14007, 14008 and the  
Memorandum on Scientific Integrity at:**

**Link > [White House Fact Sheet](#)**